

6.13 SOCIOECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

6.13.1 Affected Environment

This section describes the socioeconomic resources of the DMR project area. A discussion of Native Hawaiian TCPs and ATIs and the impact of the proposed project on these resources can be found in Section 6.11, Cultural Resources. DMR is within the Waialua CCD. The population of the Waialua CCD represented approximately 1.6 percent of the population of Honolulu County in 2000. Between 1990 and 2000 the population of this area grew from 11,549 to 14,027, an increase of 21.5 percent (Table 6-28) (US Census Bureau 1990a, 2000a). Only 41.0 percent of the housing in this district was owner-occupied, and 5.7 percent was vacant in 2000 (US Census Bureau 1990a, 2000b). Approximately 9.5 percent of the population of Waialua CCD was of Hispanic origin, and 69.6 percent (9,762 persons) of the population was made up of minority ethnic groups, the largest percentage of which was Asian/Pacific Islander (37.3 percent of the population) (Table 6-28) (US Census Bureau 1990a, 2000a). The population of Waialua CCD under the age of 18 increased 19.9 percent between 1990 and 2000. Approximately 27.4 percent of the population was within this age group in 2000 (US Census Bureau 1990a, 2000c).

No military or civilian personnel are permanently stationed at DMR.

A discussion of ROI (i.e., Honolulu County) employment, unemployment, major industries, and income is provided in Section 5.13.1.

Table 6-28
Waialua CCD Population Percentage by Race/Ethnicity

	Percent of Total Population 1990	Percent of Total Population 2000	Percent Change in Actual Population 1990-2000
White	32.4	30.4	13.9
Black or African American	1.9	4.3	168.9
Native American, Eskimo, Aleut	0.7	0.3	-54.9
Asian and Pacific Islander	63.0	37.3	-28.1
Other and Two or More Races	2.0	27.8	1,610.5
Hispanic ¹	9.1	9.5	26.4
Minority ²	67.6	69.6	25.1

Source: US Census Bureau 1990a, 2000a

¹Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

²Minority includes Black or African American; Native American, Eskimo and Aleut; Asian and Pacific Islander; Other, and two or more races.

6.13.2 Environmental Consequences

Summary of Impacts

As illustrated in Table 6-29, the Proposed Action is expected to have temporary beneficial effects on employment, income, and business volume in Honolulu County and the Waialua CCD, resulting from construction and increased expenditures that would stimulate the economy within the ROI. Less than significant adverse effects on employment, income, and the economy would occur as a result of the Proposed Action because the changes to these factors would be within the capacity of society and the economy to absorb. Chapter 4 discusses the EIFS model results, and only the results pertaining to Honolulu County would be applicable to DMR. The Proposed Action would have less than significant impacts on the protection of children, because while the Army would continue to implement safety procedures, some risks to nearby populations (particularly children) are inherent to increased construction and training activities. There would be no impacts on population, schools, or housing because no new staff would be added at DMR. No disproportionate impacts on low-income or minority populations are expected as a result of the Proposed Action. No Action would have no impacts on socioeconomic or environmental justice factors or on the protection of children.

Table 6-29
Summary of Potential Socioeconomic and Environmental Justice Impacts at DMR

Impact Issues	Proposed Action	Reduced Land Acquisition	No Action
Population	○	○	○
Employment	⊕+	⊕+	○
Income	⊕+	⊕+	○
Economy (Business Volume)	⊕+	⊕+	○
Housing	○	○	○
Environmental justice	⊙	⊙	○
Protection of children	⊙	⊙	○

In cases when there would be both beneficial and adverse impacts, both are shown on this table. Mitigation measures would only apply to adverse impacts.

LEGEND:

⊗ = Significant	+	= Beneficial impact
⊙ = Significant but mitigable to less than significant	N/A	= Not applicable
⊕ = Less than significant		
○ = No impact		

Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)

Less than Significant Impacts

Short- and long-term direct and indirect minor beneficial effects on employment, income, and business volume in Honolulu County and the Waialua CCD are expected as a result of

constructing Dillingham Trail and SBCT training associated at DMR. The expenditures and employment associated with construction would increase ROI sales volume, income, and employment, as determined from EIFS model results for Honolulu County (see Table 4-14). The EIFS model and its inputs, outputs, and significance measures (RTVs) are discussed in more detail in Appendix L. The economic benefits would last only for the duration of the construction period. These changes in the specific economic parameters (sales, income, employment, and population) would fall within historical fluctuations and are considered to be minor.

Employment. Implementing the Proposed Action would have a less than significant impact on employment. Employment associated with the construction of Dillingham Trail would result in a temporary increase in employment. Subsequent indirect increases in employment are produced by the multiplier effect resulting from increased spending by construction employees. Increased construction employment at all SBCT installations in Honolulu County would be within the historic RTV ranges and would not be considered significant (see Table 4-14); therefore, the proportion of these increases at DMR is not considered significant, and no mitigation would be required.

Income. Implementing the Proposed Action would have a less than significant impact on income. Changes in income represent the wage and salary payments made to construction workers. Increased construction income at all SBCT installations in Honolulu County would be within the historic RTV ranges and would not be considered significant (see Table 4-14); therefore, the proportion of these increases at DMR is not considered significant, and no mitigation would be required.

Economy (business volume). Implementing the Proposed Action would have a less than significant impact on business volume. Changes in local business activity resulting from the Proposed Action include the change in the dollar value construction and procurement expenditures. Increased construction-related business volume at all SBCT installations in Honolulu County would be within the historic RTV ranges and would not be considered significant (see Table 4-14); therefore, the proportion of these increases at DMR is not considered significant. No mitigation would be required.

Environmental justice. Short- and long-term indirect minor adverse effects on environmental justice populations could occur. Approximately 78.7 percent of Honolulu County and 69.6 percent of Waialua CCD was made up of minority ethnic populations (US Census Bureau 2000a), and 9.7 percent of Honolulu County had income levels below the poverty line (US Census Bureau 2001). DMR is located in an isolated portion of O'ahu, and no military or civilian personnel are permanently stationed at DMR. However, increased military traffic on public roads between DMR and SBMR would accompany the proposed action. Military vehicles could travel through predominantly minority residential neighborhoods. When military actions are conducted in areas accessible to the public, such as public roadways, the risk associated with the operations could extend to civilians. Noise from vehicle maneuvers could also disturb nearby residents. Risks to the public and military personnel inherent in training and day-to-day operations would be minimized or avoided through adherence to

existing Army-wide, unit and installation, and other applicable safety regulations and procedures.

Protection of children. Implementing the Proposed Action would have a less than significant indirect impact on the health and safety of children. The Proposed Action would not directly involve children. DMR is located in an isolated portion of O'ahu, and no military or civilian personnel are permanently stationed there. Construction activities would take place in areas that are off-limits to the general public. Restricted areas would continue to be posted with signs, enclosed by a fence, or stationed with guards. Risks to children and to the general public would be minimized by strictly adhering to applicable safety regulations and procedures.

However, increased military traffic on public roads between DMR and SBMR would accompany the proposed action. Military vehicles could travel through residential areas or by schools. When military actions are conducted in areas accessible to the public, such as public roadways, the risk associated with the operations could extend to civilians. Noise from training maneuvers or vehicle operation could also disturb nearby schools or daycare centers. Risks to the public and military personnel inherent in training and day-to-day operations would be minimized or avoided through adherence to existing Army-wide, unit and installation, and other applicable safety regulations and procedures.

No Impacts

Population. Implementing the Proposed Action would have no impacts on population. The Proposed Action would not increase the population at DMR.

Housing. Implementing the Proposed Action would have no impact on housing. There would be no increased military population at DMR and, therefore, no increase in the demand for housing.

Reduced Land Acquisition

The impacts associated with RLA would be identical to those described for the Proposed Action.

No Action Alternative

No Impacts

Existing conditions would continue under No Action. No Action would not result in a change in the local economy or population, and no impacts on population, employment, income or the economy are anticipated. No effects on housing are expected because the number of people requiring housing on- or off-post would not change as a result of No Action. No effects on environmental justice are expected. No Action would not alter the health and safety, housing, or economic conditions of minority or low-income populations in Waialua CCD or Honolulu County. No effects on children are expected because No Action would not present any change in the public health or safety risk that could affect children. The Army would continue to provide measures to protect the safety of children, including using fencing and limiting access to certain areas.